

## **Somerford Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 25 June 2025**

#### **Holmes Chapel Community Centre, 7.00pm**

#### **Present**

- Councillor Geoff Bell (Chairman)
- Councillor Jeanette Hardman (vice-Chair)
- Councillor Bill Chorlton
- Councillor Simon Hughes
- Councillor Trevor Massey (left at 2040hrs)
- Mr Carlton Evans – Clerk

#### **Declarations of Interest**

- Cllrs Hardman and Chorlton – any Loachbrook Estate discussions

#### **Part 1 Public Forum**

One member of the public was present and spoke in favour of planning application 25/1780/FUL. Cllr Robert Douglas, Congleton Town Council, spoke about uncollected and unused s106 monies and will share data with the Clerk for further investigation.

#### **082/25 – Apologies**

The Council **resolved** to accept and approve apologies from:

- Cllr P Crompton – conflicting engagements

#### **083/25 – Minutes**

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

#### **084/25 – Accounts**

#### **See Annex 1**

### **085/25 - Cheshire East Ward Councillor Report**

No report in Cllr Wray's absence.

### **086/25 - Internal Audit**

The Council received and noted the Internal Auditor Report for 2024-2025

### **087/25 – Annual Governance Statement**

The Council considered, approved and signed the Annual Governance Statements

### **088/25 – Annual Accounting Statement**

The Council considered, approved and signed the Annual Accounting Statement

### **089/25 – Bank Reconciliation**

The Council considered, approved and signed the Annual Bank Reconciliation

### **090/25 – Analysis of variances**

The Council considered, approved and signed the Annual Analysis of Variances

### **091/25 – Notice of Public Rights**

The Council noted the Notice for the Exercise of Public Rights

### **092/25 - Planning Applications**

#### **25/1780/FUL**

Erection of 1No. two-storey residential house with a detached garage. Resubmission of 24/5194/FUL - Green Tree Farm, 2 Chelford Road, Somersetford,

The Council **resolved** to raise no objection.

#### **25/1936/CLPUD**

Certificate of proposed lawful development for proposed loft conversion and dormer extension - 8 Oak Tree Avenue, Somersetford

The Council **resolved** to raise several concerns: the incongruous nature of the proposed cladding; the roof ridge pitch/level which would be too prominent, as well as the implications for the internal structure of the building; and the likelihood of an increase in the number of cars at the property which would not be able to be parked within the curtilage.

#### **25/1819/FUL**

Proposed new build dormer bungalow, Green Tree Farm, 2 Chelford Road, Somersetford,

The Council **resolved** to raise no objection.

### **093/25 – Policy Update – the Council’s Comms and Social Media Policy**

The Council reviewed its Communications and Social Media Policy. Cllr Hardman will conduct a thorough review and return to the Council with some proposals, hopefully in August, which might include revising the format of the Newsletter.

### **094/25 - Rhead’s Meadows**

The Clerk reported that he was unaware whether to be undertaken by Streetscape had been done (including at Blackfirs). He and the Chair will make a site visit soon.

### **095/25 - Blackfirs Wood**

See Rhead’s Meadows discussion above.

### **096/25 – Highways**

No substantive discussion.

### **097/25 – Housing Developments**

Cllr Hardman is still awaiting responses to her emails to Vistry about completion of the development and has written to Sarah Russell MP about pursuing Vistry/UU/CE Highways. The Loachbrook Estate has been mentioned in a Westminster Hall debate about the poor quality etc. of many housing developments. Vistry has however said it will meet the costs of bringing the estate up to a good standard and that there will be no management fees until it is - a degree of cynicism among residents persists.

### **098/25 - Chairman and Members’ Reports**

Cllrs asked the Clerk to contact the owners of the fence at Goodwin’s Pool about repairing or replacing it. Cllr Hardman urged Councillors to update their email accounts. The Chair will contact the landowners about the presence of ragwort on their land opposite Goodwins Pool.

### **099/25 - Clerk’s Report**

Nothing further to report. Goodwins Pool.

**The meeting ended at 2125 hrs.**

X

Chairman

## Annex 1 - Accounts

Bank Balance as of 01 June 2025: **£56,057.92**

**The Council noted the following receipts since 1 May 2025:**

- £2.60 – Lloyds Dividend

**The Council approved the following payments:**

- £nil

**The Council noted the following payments since 1 May 2025:**

- £48.42 – NEST, Clerk's Pension
- £32.81 – Printer Ink for Clerk
- £53.37 – Clerk Mileage January to March 2025
- £41.25 – HCCC Room Hire
- £179.39 – HMRC PAYE
- £425.88 – Zurich Insurance
- £551.33 – Clerk Salary